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Indiana wins federal grant to turn brownfields into greenways

INDIANAPOLIS– The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency awarded two \$200,000 grants to the State of Indiana to turn contaminated properties into new recreational opportunities for Hoosiers.

The Indiana Brownfields Program, managed by the Indiana Finance Authority (IFA), will use the grant to assess sites that applicants suspect have petroleum or hazardous substance contamination. To qualify for an assessment, the applicant's end goal must be to redevelop the brownfield site into a trail, park or greenway – part of Governor Daniels' [*Indiana State Trails, Greenways and Bikeways Plan*](#). The IFA, who will manage the funds, is providing a \$200,000 match towards the initiative.

“One of Governor Daniels' top priorities is promoting healthy living. Converting contaminated sites into trails not only provides additional recreation areas for Hoosiers but also makes Indiana more desirable to tourists and employers looking to relocate,” said Ryan Kitchell, Public Finance Director.

The Indiana Brownfields Program anticipates utilizing the federal funding to complete approximately 24 Phase I and 18 Phase II environmental assessments statewide. Such assessments are necessary to determine the type and extent of environmental contamination, as well as to estimate the costs associated with cleaning up the property to enable recreational use.

Eligible applicants include political subdivisions and not-for-profit organizations. For information on how you can apply to obtain funding for brownfield redevelopment, contact Sara Westrick, Financial Resources Coordinator for the Indiana Brownfields Program, at swestrick@ifa.in.gov or (317) 234-1688.

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